

The Monthly A·C·E

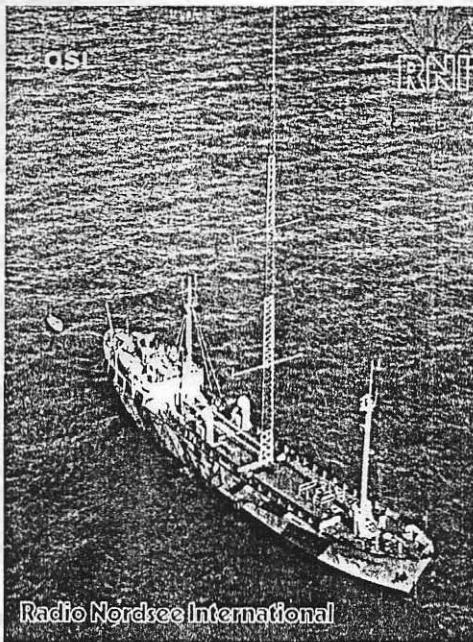
*The Official Bulletin of the Association of Clandestine
Radio Enthusiasts*

Since 1982 • July 2001

By C. M. Stanbury II



DX CROOKS AND CLANDESTINES



Radio Nordsee International

**THRILLS
FOR
EVEN
HARDEST-
BOILED
D-X
HOUNDS**

Don't envy the fellow with a
big list of verifications—have a
bigger collection yourself!

The Managing Editor's Page

By Harry Helms

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Welcome to the July ACE!

The editors have done another super job with their columns this month, and my thanks to each of them! And I also want to thank everyone who contributed loggings and other info to the editors.

I'm repeating my call for illustrations of your favorite pirate QSLs and other items to illustrate the ACE. A clear photocopy will work fine, as will electronic files such as .TIFF, .GIF, or. JPEG (.TIFF gives greatest clarity). I can also scan your QSLs here and return them to you, but please e-mail me before sending any of your QSLs to me. This is your chance to gain lasting fame for your QSLs and to reduce the number of QSLs and other items from my collection of radio junk that your fellow ACE members will be subjected to!

Remember that July 4 is a very active day for pirates! Good DX and report what you hear!



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DIALOGS July 2001

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(Next deadline for submissions: July 18th, 2001)

LATE LOGS

Nothing late this month!

FROM ACROSS THE POND

Alfa Lima International (alinter@rendo.dekooi.nl)

- 05/26/01, 0115+, 15070A - mx - rock oldies. Fading. (JS-NE)
- 06/03/01, 2320-0250+, 15070A - host Alfred reading email and giving station i.d.s. Pop/rock mix. Noted at 0352 with the theme from "Shaft". (RD-PA "Fair") (JS-NE)
- 06/09/01, 2159-2323+, 15070A - mx - dance, techno. Greetings to DXers and hotline number given. (JF-RI 343)

NORTH/SOUTH AMERICAN LOGGINGS

Allen Iverson Worldwide (*Unknown*)

- 06/06/01, 0046-0104, 6950L - rap and "Underdog" show theme. OM announcer w/deep voice. (Pse QSL JS-NE)
- 06/11/01, 0040-0103*, 6950L - mx - rap. OM anncr, "right here on the pirate shortwave band", "mother*cker bring it on", visit by Underdog. (AF 333)

Blind Faith Radio (blindfaithradio@yahoo.com)

- 05/27/01, *1533-1536*, 6955U - one rock song, ID, "because we hate dead air" and a promise to be on later, as well. (GZ-OH 343)

CATS/All Your Base Radio (aybradio@yahoo.com)

- 05/29/01, 0221, 6950CW - "All your base are belong to us" repeated a few times. (AF 333)
- 06/11/01, 0136-0159*, 6950U/CW - "All your base are belong to us" in c.w., MIDI clip from the soundtrack, off with c.w. ID. (AF)(JS-NE)

Eat It Radio (*FRN*)

- 06/17/01, 0136-0138*, 6955U - commentary ending with "This has been Eat It Radio." (AF 232)

Ground Zero Radio (gzrsw@usa.net)

- 05/27/01, 0202-0237*, 6955L - mx - "Die Walkure", lecture on nuclear preparedness, news items. (AF 322)(JS-NE)
- 05/28/01, *0025-0102*, 6950U - repeat of 5/27. Claims to be United Patriot Radio but sounds a lot like GZR. Claims to be eating dog food to keep his radio running. "Refugees On Ice", Chinese Spy Plane ads. (AF 343)(GM-CT 333)(GZ-OH 343- George reported 6955U?)(JS-NE)

KBFA (*Unknown*)

- 06/13/01, 0419-0435+, 6955L - rebroadcast of WKUE (see WKUE below.) (AF 444)

KRMI (krm6955@hotmail.com)

- 06/06/01, 0212-0223*, 6950U - D-Day remembrance show. Mx was 40's-style including "Boogie-Woogie Bugle Boy". (AF 434)
- 06/07/01, 0242-0250*, 6950U - repeat of 06/06/01 D-Day remembrance special. (AF 423)(JS-NE)

Radio 3 (*A.C.E.*)

- 05/27/01, 2336-0029, 6950A - "Nothing compares to Radio 3!" Mention of GPS? "Sal is America's Pal", "Z-Rock/Radio 3". Contest for Drake R3B. "The Night My Server Died" (AF 422)(GM-CT 333)(PL-NY 322)
- 05/28/01, 0205-0237, 6955A - Repeat of earlier show. (GM-CT 333)
- 06/10/01, 0105-0136+, 6950A - "Heart full of ??Soul", reverb on anncr., ad for the A.C.E. and saying to post to the A.C.E. Dialogs. Not too strong a signal overall. (AF 221)(GZ-OH 242 - George reports 6950L)(JS-NE)
- 06/16/01, 0236-0306*, 6955A - host Sal with "The best music you've never heard" and "Nothing compares to Radio 3!" Good but unfamiliar music, clip of the estimable Mister Zeller. Promo by Buck Bunny. (AF 423)(JS-NE)

Radio Bingo (radiobingo@chek.com)

- 05/20/01, *0109-0135*, 6950L - mx - varied rock along with Pirate Operator clips. (GZ-OH 343)
- 05/26/01, 0409, 6950U - usual game. (AF 333)

- 06/07/01, 0153-0255, 6955L – mx – Beatles, Mister Rogers. Mention of Sal Ammoniac, Doctor Tornado, Senor El Nino contestants. Al Fansome a winner! (AF 322) (JS-NE)
- 06/09/01, 2333-0007*, 6950U – Mister Rogers, the Blues and Brother Stair, mention of A.C.E., PIPA, YL reading bingo numbers. (AF 142) (JF-R1 444)
- 06/12/01, 0202, 6950L – “Revolution Number 9” and Captain Ganja. (AF 433)
- 06/14/01, 0112-0134, 6950L – mx – Charlie Daniels – and the rules for Radio Bingo. (JS-NE)
- 06/16/01, 0023-0049*, 6950A – mx – Golden Earring, Beatles. Frequency drift. Al Fansome is a winner. (AF 333)
- 06/17/01, 0228-0242, 6950L – a (what else?) bingo game with JTA and clips of various station operators. (Al states that he won a game, George makes no mention of this. Coincidence? I think not!) (GZ-OH 343) (AF 444)

Radio FCC (*Unknown*)

- 05/24/01, 0214-0223, 6950U – mx – “Come And Get It”, “Like A Virgin”, “Just One Look”. Synthesized IDs with YL voice reminiscent of WMPR style. (NW-ON) (AF 343 – Al reports 6955U?)

Radio Free Euphoria (*Belfast*)

- 06/10/01, 0133-0217*, 6955U – the Captain with “One Took Over The Line”, “Home Grown” and a song for Janice “Show me your Monkey” Laws in Canada. (AF 344) (JF-R1 333) (GM-CT 333 – Greg reported 6/11, but so many things matched on 6/10 I’m assuming he meant the 10th?)

Radio Free Speech (*Belfast*)

- 05/28/01, 2151-2209*, 6950A – mx – “Star Spangled Banner”. Comedy special, noisy condx. (AF 322)
- 05/28/01, 2245-2307*, 6950A – mx – “Free Bird”, “Summertime Blues”. Mention of Dale Earnhardt, 40 meter beam in Montana pointing at Washington, DC and sampling a gift from Captain Ganja. (AF 322)
- 05/29/01, 0107-0117*, 6950A – mx – “My Generation”. Mention of preceding Captain Ron transmission, comments that FRN postings are only checked every few weeks. Testing a beam antenna. (AF 333) (GZ-OH 343)

Radio Neptune Universal Service (*Blue Ridge Summit*)

- 06/17/01, 0550-0617, 6949U – replay of show #8. (JS-NE)

Radio Rayo del Sur/Radio Exotica (*Unknown*)

- 05/20/01, 0107-0140, 14556L – mx – pan pipes, very weak, tough copy. (JS-NE)

Radio Tornado Worldwide (*None*)

- 06/08/01, 2241-2250*, 6955U – clips of Doctor Tornado and Jimmy Da Weasel, mention of Clinton administration suggests this is an old show. No drop given. (GZ-OH 242)
- 06/09/01, 0147-0225+, 6950U – mx – Rammstein. Clips of Jimmy Da Weasel and comments about Al Wiener. Encouragement of operators to speak their minds. (AF 433) (Pse QSL JS-NE)
- 06/10/01, 0203-0231*, 6950U – samples of Doctor Tornado and Jimmy Da Weasel. Talk about Al Wiener. Off with “Secret Agent Man”. (GM-CT 333)

Shadow Radio (*the_shadow6950@hotmail.com?*)

- 05/27/01, 0247-0310+, 6955L – oldtime radio show (w/mx) possibly? Very weak. (AF 222) (Pse QSL JS-NE)
- 05/29/01, 0154-0210+, 6955U – mx – rock, talk between cuts. OM ann. with “Shadow Radio” ID at 0157. (GZ-OH 343)
- 06/11/01, 0303-0321+, 6951L – “The Green Hornet”. (AF 222) (Pse QSL JS-NE)

Sycko Radio (*None*)

- 05/29/01, 0436-0517*, 6950U – “Shortwave Man” show until 0448, then station IDs, sound loops, roly-poly (?) song, mx by Metallica. (MP-SD 333)

Take It Easy Radio (*Belfast*)

- 05/29/01, 0230-0304*, 6955U – Pearl Harbor documentary, tribute to veterans, an old Vera Lynn song, muddy audio on the microphone, rest good. (AF 444) (MP-SD 322)
- 05/29/01, 0316-0418*, 6955A – back on at 0316 with “Good Morning, Viet Nam”, comments on ‘Nam, Adrian Conauer, AFRS sign off and off the air with traditional TIER signoff tune. (AF 444) (MP-SD 432)
- 06/17/01, 0625-0722, 6950U – mx – Jefferson Starship, Steve Rhode. Mention of JTA and Harry Helms. Charles Crawford and Al Fansome. (JS-NE)

The Voice Of Captain Ron Shortwave (*captainron6955@hotmail.com*)

- 05/29/01, 0050-0105, 6950U – noisy, weak. Could hear the Captain talking, heard mention of Major Prick and email addresses/FRN, couldn’t make much else out. (AF 222)
- 06/11/01, 0134-0140*, 6950L – live test broadcast, the Captain says that he’s too lazy to clean out his email. (AF 322)
- 06/11/01, 0227-0243*, 6951L – The Captain gives advice on dealing with life and says to “Keep on rocking!” (AF 222) (JS-NE)

The Voice Of The Angry Bastard (*Belfast*)

06/10/01, 0028-0126+, 6950U – two old VoltAB shows with a Radio 3 show sandwiched between them. (AF 221) (JF-R1 131) (Pse QSL JS-NE)

WHYP (*whyp1530@yahoo.com*)

- 05/30/01, 0232-0311+, 6955L – Memorial Day special – Croquet tournament, Captain Ganja, smoking “Fansomes”, the “Fansome Group” and the “Fansome Cup”. Greetings to Bill F. (AF 433) (JS-NE)
- 06/06/01, 0121, 6955L – mx – “Crystal Blue Persuasion”. Mention of the Second Annual Invitational Croquet Tournament, Bozo and “Fansomes”. (AF 333)

WKUE (*Unknown*)

- 05/27/01, 0400-0411+, 6955U – mx – “The Show Must Go On”, “Pinball Wizard”, “The Lion Sleeps Tonight”, some jingles. Host “Laughing Bill”. (Pse QSL LR-NH 544)

WMFQ (*Providence*)

- 06/11/01, 0244, 6950L – mx – “Miss You”, “Go Your Own Way”. Someone purporting to be Sal Ammoniac. (AF 322)
- 06/11/01, 0315, 6955L – a few notes from “I Feel Fine”, other seemingly random notes, robotic voice trying to say “6955”. (AF 322) (Maybe Al’s been hanging out with Captain Ganja of late?)

WVDA (*wvdapirate@yahoo.com*)

- 05/19/01, *2125-2136*, 6955U – host Willy Wang with talk programming. First broadcast. Attempted a KIPM relay but had technical difficulties. Sponsored by “Nuttin’ Homo” cereal. (GZ-OH 252)
- 06/06/01, 0303, 6955U – only caught a brief snippet, gave the email address and was gone. (AF 333)

TENTATIVE/UNIDENTIFIED

Radio 3? (A.C.E.)

- 06/11/01, 0003-0007, 6950U – maybe Radio 3, MIDI songs, sample of Beatles’ “Revolution Number Nine”. Ended with “I don’t know what I’m doing. 73’s” (GM-CT 333)

Radio Pirana International? (*Unknown*)

- 06/05/01, 0138-0218, 11420A – mix of pop vocals and short talks. (RD-PA Weak, deep fading)

The Pirate/Pirate On The High Seas? (*Unknown*)

- 05/29/01, 0156-0258+, 6950U – mx – “Like A Hurricane”, “Whip It”, “You Ain’t Seen Nothing Yet”. IDs of “Pirate Radio” and “The Pirate”. Asked if anyone else was on the frequency. Could have been Sycko Radio? (AF 222) (Pse QSL LR-NH 433) (Pse QSL JS-NE) (Probably Inky’s half-brother Otto!)
- 05/29/01, 0307-0343*, 6950U – mx – various hard rock. OM annr with “You’ve got the Pirate on the High Seas here!” (Pse QSL MP-SD 322)

UNID

- 05/22/01, 0103, 6950A – mx – “Turning Japanese”, “Come And Get It”, “Like A Virgin”. Very weak. Maybe FCC? (AF 131) (Very likely was, Al – look at the playlist for FCC up above on the 24th!)
- 05/29/01, 0320-0351+, 6955U – mx – oldies with OM annr describing 60’s events and music. Obviously broadcast of px produced elsewhere. (RD-PA “Good”)
- 05/29/01, 0350-0426*, 6950U – a parade of hard rock songs. (MP-SD 322)
- 06/18/01, 0118-0119*, 6950L – mx – punk-like. (AF 233)

CONTRIBUTORS/PLEASE QSL

Richard D’Angelo, 2216 Burkey Drive, Wyomissing, PA 19610 (RD-PA)

Al Fansome (AF)

Joe Filipkowski, 28 Mill Wheel Road, Warwick, RI 02886 (JF-R)

Paul Lerner, 670 Evelyn Avenue, East Meadow, NY 11554-5427 (PL-NY)

Greg Majewski, 1176 Route 163, Oakdale, CT 06370 (GM-CT)

Marina Pappas, 366 3rd Street Southeast, Huron, SD 57350 (MP-SD)

Lee Reynolds, 53 Unity Springs Road, Lemester, NH 03605-3130 (LR-NH)

John Sedlacek, 2728 North 45th Avenue, Omaha, NE 68104-4527 (JS-NE)

George Zeller, 3492 West 123rd Street, Cleveland, OH 44111 (GZ-OH)

RAMBLINGS

This month we have two contributors I haven’t seen before (while editing Dialogs) – Paul Lerner of NY and that well-known sex symbol of the shortwave scene – Rich D’Angelo of PA. Thanks for the logs, guys, they’re much appreciated!

VERIFIED RESPONSE

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NEXT COLUMN DEADLINE: July 19th.

Hope all of you are enjoying your summer. Now is the time to send those follow up reports to pester those stations who haven't QSLED and make sure your antenna is in shape to survive the upcoming winter.

John T. Arthur reports that the Australian pirate, RADIO EUREKA INTERNATIONAL is using the Box 3103, Onekawa, Napier, New Zealand maildrop for reception reports.

On to the reports:

ALFA LIMA INTERNATIONAL-HOLLAND. Full data QSL card and letter in 6 weeks for report sent via snail mail. [Sedlacek-NE]

ALL YOUR BASE RADIO. E mail verie signed by Cats featuring the famous "all your base are belong to us" in 30 minutes for an email report. [Sedlacek-NE]

KRMI. Two QSLs. One in 4 hours for an email report and the second in 3 days via mail featuring a beautiful color picture of a sailing ship. [Sedlacek-NE]

MELVIN MALFUNCTION. 6950, Cool email QSL for report posted on www.frn.net [Fansome-?] Email QSL in 6 months from Terry Sands. [Sedlacek-NE]

RADIO COCHIGUAZ-SOUTH AMERICA. 11440, nice full data card, beautiful "Certificado del Oyente" and personal letter from Cachito Mamani in 5 months from the Casilla 159, Santiago 14, Chile maildrop. [Lobdell-MA]



RADIO NEPTUNE UNIVERSAL SERVICE. Nice QSL card and cover letter from the Blue Ridge Summit mail drop in 75 days. [Reynolds-NH] Card, letter and play list in 3 months from Joe Mack. [Sedlacek-NE]

WVDA. 6955, Email letter from Captain Disturbo and Willy Wang saying they would send a real QSL soon. [Zeller-OH]

Many thanks to contributors Al Fansome, Lee Reynolds-NH, John Sedlacek-NE, JTA-NY and George Zeller-OH

CLANDESTINE PROFILE

by George Zeller

Your loggings, information, and speculations about clandestine radio stations are always very welcome for this column. You can send them direct to your editor at 3492 West 123rd Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44111. Or, you can call (216) 941-3366 anytime, or else (216) 696-9077 between 1200-2100 UTC weekdays. E-mail input is welcome via my georgez@nacs.net address, with <http://www.nacs.net/~georgez> providing access to my web page.

UNITED PATRIOT RADIO ANNOUNCES ORT LATE BREAKING NEWS FROM STEVE ANDERSON

We have late breaking news this month, forwarded by Tom Severt of Kansas. On the militia watchdog list he found a June 15 public statement from Steve Anderson, the driving force behind United Patriot Radio. The message comes from a Bonnie Bergey bonberg@fast.net post on the "Watchdog List" at watchdog@militia-watchdog.org that originated from "Gunnfixer, Tony Hogrefe of the CA High Desert Militia" using a Gunnfixer@cs.com e-mail address. Steve Anderson's e-mail address was bulldogradio621@hotmail.com in this string of postings and forwarded e-mails, so that address might be good for any follow-up internet correspondence. It certainly is not easy to cite sources in the alphabet soup of internet nomenclature that we are stuck with nowadays.

It appears that United Patriot Radio has left the air, bringing the history of the longest-running domestic United States shortwave clandestine to a close. The best way to describe the situation is to reprint the statement from Steve Anderson, which I'll do right here without any editing

JUNE 15 STATEMENT FROM STEVE ANDERSON:

June 15, 2001, 13:04: It is with regret that I must announce the demise of United Patriot Radio. Last night was my final transmission. The reasons for this are ongoing. This came to a "head" after the Mark Koernke Rally in Michigan. I traveled 9 hours to get there. Poker Face came all the way from Penn. to play. There were some true blue patriot folk there, but in reality, the turnout was pathetic! After all that the Koernke family has done for the "patriot" community in this nation, to see the piddling little crowd at this support rally completely broke my heart. Mark is locked up, and is being abandoned by the "patriots"! How quickly we forget. I see a similar fate for me. I will not be arrested, but killed in a firefight, and no one could stop that. Afterward, it will be said among the few real patriots that are left, that I had courage. Then I will disappear like a mist. I am not being intimidated off the air, but starved out. I have put up a good "front" to keep up morale among the people. It ain't workin'! I have needed at least \$2000 per month to get by, and have gotten less than 500. It is the poorest of the patriots that have given the most! I can not continue in this manner. It is not fair to them, or to me. I can't pay my bills, buy shoes, fix my tractor, pay the good friends back that have so generously helped me during this endeavor, or even at times know where my next meal is coming from. A few cannot, and indeed should not, bear the burden for the many. It was so "cool" to listen to, but not enough to forgo some beer to support. I most certainly am not bashing the faithful few, and I do mean few, that have supported this free voice station. I am just not going to cast pearls before swine anymore. The Koernkes have been the most active in building this station, even to their own financial harm. This sucks! If these true patriots can do this, as poor as they are with Mark locked up, why couldn't the Militia at large help? Some have, but most have not. The ones that have know who they are, and have my undying gratitude. The ones that have not....I am going to return to what I have done all my life. WORK. I have wasted enough time trying to help the sleepie. I will put my efforts into building a strike team in my area to "take care of business" when it hits. I still may get raided, as the ATF is training hard at Fort Knox just for this, I have been informed. If they kill me, so what. Another one gone. Oh well.....Steve Anderson

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

Anderson's statement speaks for itself, but given the KSMR and United Patriot Radio station history, we probably need to let this announcement sink in before we draw hasty conclusions. Some version of this station broadcast with a virtually daily schedule for over three months, but it has had short periods of inactivity on occasion. It seems clear from the Steve Anderson statement and the history of station

logs that this activity was normally associated with the comings and goings of personnel responsible for the programming and transmitter. Nevertheless, it remains true that the patriot clandestine has come and gone before, with reactivations taking place before too long.

You will recall that the move from KSMR to United Patriot Radio came when an internal split in the Kentucky State Militia caused the organization to disavow any involvement with the station. This disrupted the station for a brief period, but it came back with improved station equipment including a satellite feed for relays of "patriot" programming that supplemented the station's own productions. It is clear from the Steve Anderson statement that some personnel and/or political splits within the patriot movement are still evident. Anderson cites this as the main factor behind the station's announced QRT. But, in addition, he notes that the station had trouble maintaining adequate financing. Certainly the significant expenditures on equipment and the electric bills for a transmitter approaching a kilowatt appear to have added up, but appear to have not generated financial donations from the "patriot" movement in sufficient quantity, or from a sufficiently broad base of donors. Anderson also denies that governmental enforcement actions and/or police threats had anything to do with the demise of the station. Indeed his statement indicates that he still anticipates the possibility of violence in association with the station, even following its announced demise.

Prior to the Anderson statement, the station was broadcasting fairly regularly and exclusively in June on 6900 kHz upper sideband, having largely abandoned the earlier regular use of 3260 kHz, apparently for reasons related to antennas and propagation on 90 meters. The last broadcast of the station to date has been the June 15 UTC broadcast mentioned in the Steve Anderson statement. I checked for them on various frequencies on the evening of June 17 UTC, and found no sign of them.

Meanwhile, I received a phone call from veteran ACE member Joe Filipkowski in Rhode Island who reported an apparent pirate parody of the patriot clandestine using an ID of "Bill's Militia Movement." This Filipkowski log came on 6900 kHz about 2145 UTC on June 16, only one day after the release of the Steve Anderson statement. I thank Joe very much for this tip; he said that the parody had a pretty good signal at his location. I checked immediately from my Cleveland QTH, but I heard nothing. It is, of course, very possible for a daytime pirate to put a good signal in to Rhode Island and no signal at all into Ohio.

Taking all of this together, it would not surprise me if we have not quite seen the end of this remarkable station. It would still pay to check 6900 kHz for a while in case the station returns. Stay tuned.

FALUN DAFA RADIO NOW FANG GUANG MING RADIO

As mentioned in the lead story of *Clandestine Radio Watch* #71, the Falun Guang clandestine station broadcasting against China has changed its station name and its ID. A P. Rohic of Austria reported this news from a QSL that he received from the station. This QSL arrived with a return address of Guang Ming Inc., Post Office Box 117, Buford, Georgia 30518. Apparently they have not worked out a deal with Radio Bob to use the Lula maildrop. Another log in CRW #71 from an O. Alm of Sweden, reprinted from *Cumbre DX* #349, said that he copied their ID on 12075 kHz at 2200 on May 31. His conclusion was that the ID was either "Fang Guang Ming Dian Tai" (translating as Propagate Brightness Radio) or Da Guang Ming Dian Tai (Great Brightness Radio after translation). Alm speculated that the transmitter might be in some part of the former USSR such as Armenia.

POTENTIAL NEW JAMMING SOURCE

As noted in CRW #71 in a report from H Biener in Germany, for a long time there has been an unofficial tacit agreement that some governments would not jam some religious broadcasters, as long as their programming was 100% religious with no political content. One of these governments is allegedly China. But, Biener notes that China has shelved this tacit agreement, and is increasingly jamming religious broadcasters into parts of China. Apparently the Chinese government doesn't want to take any chances that some politics might sneak their way into station schedules at a few religious broadcasters.

So, if you hear increased levels of jamming in the morning on frequencies from Asia, you could be noticing an impact of this shift in Chinese strategy.

GEORGE ZELLER WINS SWISS RADIO INTERNATIONAL CONTEST

While driving down the freeway on May 25, I had the Sony 5600X in my car tuned to 9885 kHz at 2350 UTC. Normally I would not mention the regular service from Swiss Radio International in a clandestine radio column, even though last month I had to give them the raspberries for preceding the BBC's announcement of North American service cuts with a Swiss phase-out of shortwave transmissions.

I now have to make it two months in a row for SRI in a clandestine column, because during this show they announced the winners of SRI's April "Name Game" contest. Winners of the three top prizes, a SRI pen, a cup that changes colors when you put hot liquids in it, and a Swiss watch, were all from India or Bangladesh. But, in April there were two additional prizes of Zweisimmen pullover shirts that were donated by the Zweisimmen, Switzerland tourist office. The winner of one of these shirts was an Illinois DXer whose name I did not recognize. But, I did recognize the name of the other winner, which was George Zeller of Cleveland, Ohio. About a week later a box arrived from Bern, containing a nice shirt monogrammed with the name of Zweisimmen and a small Swiss flag.

So, for the first time in the history of shortwave radio, George Zeller has won a shortwave contest. Those of you who have visited my web site (URL above) will remember that I have done considerable genealogy research in Zweisimmen, since this Berner Oberland town was the birthplace of my father's grandfather Johannes Zeller. I've been to the Zweisimmen tourist office on multiple occasions, even noticing their move last year from a former location right next to Zweisimmen city hall on Lenkstrasse to their new location across the street from the Coop grocery near the post office on Thunstrasse. (Yes, DXers with good memories will remember Lenk, about ten miles south of Zweisimmen, which formerly was the site of a SRI transmitter that was torn down about four years ago).

So, I take this opportunity to thank Swiss Radio International for awarding me a prize that I actually am very happy about. I sent them a letter, copied to the Zweisimmen tourist office, thanking them. I doubt if this will cause a reconsideration of their plans to abandon shortwave at SRI, but the prize is appreciated nevertheless.

MODEST PROPOSAL FROM LEE REYNOLDS

Those of you who know our DiaLogs editor Lee Reynolds are aware of his British ancestry, which extends to his accent that is very unlike the accents of most New England residents. Lee's accent sounds a lot more like Tony Blair than it sounds like Ted Kennedy. Lee therefore took note of our rant in the column last month attacking the BBC for their astonishing blunder of abandoning shortwave broadcasts beamed to North America. Lee suggests, with his tongue only partially in cheek, that the USA should respond by scheduling 24/7 saturation broadcasts by the Voice of America to the United Kingdom in Special English. Further, Lee wonders where to get tickets for the wrestling match between Jimmy the Weasel and Tony Blair. Ticketron reports that none of these are on sale yet.

I can report, however, that *Clandestine Radio Watch* #71 did reprint the worst of the rant in this column last month via DXLD #1-083, including the quote taken out of context from Jimmy the Weasel involving the ancestors of Tony Blair and Blair's deteriorating relationship to the deity. This does not seem to have hurt the Labor party very much in the recent elections.

ARTIE BIGLEY CHECKS IN

Old-time veteran ACE members will remember the name of Artie Bigley, since he was a very active presence in the pirate DXing scene of the 1980's. Artie checked in this month to let us know that he has relocated to Columbus, Ohio, and would like to say hello to ACE members. Maybe Artie will sneak over to nearby Universal Shortwave in Reynoldsburg to snap up some equipment to rejoin the unlicensed broadcasting DX community.

THANKS!

The input of ACE members and other DXers is vitally important to this column, and to all other ACE columns. We thank Martin Schoech (Germany), Bud Stacey (Alabama), Lee Reynolds (New Hampshire), Tom Severt (Kansas), Artie Bigley (Ohio), Joe Filipkowski (Rhode Island), and George Zeller (Ohio) for providing material. Next month we all hope to hear from YOU by July 21 for the August *Clandestine Profile*.

Micro'casting

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HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY! Wave that American flag in pride, pop those fireworks in remembrance of ALL our forefathers fought for! Yes, this time of year gets me all excited, being the patriot I am! And it's a good time, too, to tune in and listen for all those hard-fought-for free radio stations we all like (or hate? see past ACE polls!). Be sure to support your ACE columnists and report what you hear!

STORM SEASON COMETH: Yes, as I've mentioned time & time again, this is the time of the year when I get VERY radio-active; that is, making sure, portable- and base-wise, I have the proper monitoring power to keep up with hurricane season. Batteries get bought and conditioned, main and spare antennas are checked, equipment checked out, proper frequencies are entered and monitored, and as long as is available, computer networks are checked. Of course, other items are checked and stored properly, as mentioned before, both for the safety and well-being of family and community alike.

So, what about that local/community station in times like these? If you don't live in the hurricane belt as I do, surely you live where there's snowfall, flooding apt to happen, tornados, earthquakes and so on. What's to happen if the local (if there are any left!) radio station(s) go down? These folks do everything they can to assure they'll stay on the air, but we've all seen times when they don't. For those of you who still have Part 15 (or other) stations, sometimes it's only YOU who stay on the air! This has been the case when Texas suffered floods a couple years ago, when Florida bent under hurricanes and so on. YOU make the difference when YOU serve your community in such a manner!

So, what can you do to turn your station into a "storm alert station"? As we've mentioned before in this column, make sure your emergency supplies are READY. That is, to stress-test everything BEFORE "it" happens- kind of like hams do with their Field Day operations.

Have a good scanner? My Realistic PRO-2006 has a "tape out" jack (RCA) which can be easily coupled to a Part 15 transmitter via a mixer. Have a C-band satellite system? Most receivers have line-out jacks that can be coupled as the scanner can. By the way, Dish Network and DirecTV 18" systems tend to lose signal in heavy rain; DON'T count on THEM for feeds during a hurricane or extreme rain!

What to do if there's no AC power for the aforementioned equipment? Either power it by heavy-duty batteries and a DC-to-AC converter, or have your local reputable technician to convert it (if possible) to 12 volt DC power. Some equipment can be readily adapted for DC power by adding a tap after the AC mains. Sometimes the AC power is converted down from 120 volts AC to 12 volts DC by the internal power supply. In some cases however, some equipment is 24 volts DC after conversion, so this would entail operating two 12 volt deep-cycle batteries in series (12 + 12) for that power. In other cases, equipment readily adapted for 12 VDC for RVs (recreational vehicles) might be available, but we're talking money...and the stuff we're really talking about is readily-available consumer goods you may already have on hand.

IN NO CASE SHOULD SOMEONE WITH NO TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE ATTEMPT THESE MODIFICATIONS; you could get hurt, or at the very least, burn up your equipment! Take the equipment in question to a qualified tech for modifications! Of course, this could violate the United Lab certifications; kind of like infuriating the mattress police, yeah?

Another thing to consider: FM equipment would be of better use than AM equipment in a lightning storm, since AM picks up the static crashes from lightning. If you have a two-story house, or a tall attic, consider locating the transmitter/antenna combo up there, as high as possible for best coverage. And notify your neighbors you'll be putting this station on the air, since they may not have all the goodies you may have! Not everyone has that whizbang scanner or other stuff you got, but 'most everyone has an FM radio!

This may sound far-fetched, but folks are doing this!

BOOK REVIEW: "SOLAR FLARE", BY LARRY BURKETT Every now & then, there's a movie or book that comes across that is good enough to recommend and this is one of them. Larry Burkett has written many books on financial freedom which are excellent; this is the first of his I've found that is fiction relating to what COULD happen if major solar flares hit the Earth. Some of you may know what EMP, or electromagnetic pulse is and what it'll do to anything electronic. Basically, it's a huge pulse of energy put out by any one of many sources, one being a major solar flare, another from the explosion of an atomic bomb, etc. EMP can burn out tender transistors and incapacitate integrated circuits in an instant. Why, police departments have experimented with pulse weapons on automobiles in the event they wanted to disable a fleeing suspect....

Needless to say, this novel is very life-like in how and what could happen if something like this did come about. It makes one wonder what it would be like to be plunged from the 21st century back to the 18th century in a second. Very good reading, this is not a "doom and gloom" work; it does however make one think on how fortunate we are and also what to prepare for IF anything were to happen. On a 1 to 10 scale, I'd give this an eight. Check it out!

PCS ELECTRONICS Mentioned before in this column, Marko has informed many of us via the alt.radio.pirate newsgroup that he's soon changing servers; the one he's currently using is not doing things properly, so he's getting a better one. If you log onto www.pcs-electronics.com, you'll see the notice, but some of his stuff is still working there. I also hear he's getting rave reviews of his products! If you want to contact him via snail mail, here's his address: PCS Electronics, Marko Seruga, Ul. Simona Jenka 7, SI-1215 Medvode, Slovenia. Notice: some of the PCS units may or may not be legal by FCC rules and regulations to use inside the U.S.A.

And so, it's time to cede some room for other columnists! Hope all will have a fabulous Fourth of July! de Bud



Covert Comms

By Tom Sevant

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I thought I was done talking about the US Navy's spy plane that force landed in China, but there's still more news about this incident. According to NewsMax, an online news service, China has broken some of the codes used by the US military from inspecting the hardware aboard the captured EP-3 spy plane. The codes for the NATO Link-11 communications system were compromised, and Japan has ordered its military to change their codes. Link-11 is, of course, that raspy "dink-dink-dink-diiiiink" signal heard all over the HF bands. In case you're not familiar with what it sounds like, listen to 4703 USD some evening.

The captured EP-3 was equipped with the latest version of the Link-11 system, code named "story book." However, the Chinese navy has already been using a stolen version of the system, called Link-W.

Japanese officials are concerned because they use the system in two Boeing 767 spyplanes which have missions to operate surveillance against China. These aircraft are also equipped with radar to watch aircraft and missile launches inside China. Japan is concerned about the compromise of the codes because their Link-11 system may be jammed in case of war with China, preventing them from passing important data.

Pentagon sources are convinced that the April 1 incident was no accident. Several other incidents of Chinese fighters flying too close to American recon aircraft have occurred before, but they were dismissed by Pentagon officials as lone actions by "hot-shot" pilots. But now it appears that the previous incidents were attempts to force a US spy plane down on Chinese territory so they could steal whatever secrets they could from the aircraft. Chinese pilots operate under a strict Soviet-style control system which would not allow them to fly close passes to other aircraft without permission. So there's no doubt that this was a deliberate action.

In Miami, a court has found five Cubans guilty of spying on the US for Cuba. The spies, who were arrested in Florida in 1998, are believed to be part of the largest ever Cuban spy ring operating in the US. All five were found guilty of operating as foreign agents, and three of them were found guilty of trying to infiltrate US military bases. One of the defendants, Gerardo Hernandez, faces life in prison for his part in the deaths of four Americans after their small airplane was shot down in 1996. The four Americans were part of the organization "Brothers to the Rescue," a group of exiled Cubans whose purpose is to try to help other Cubans leave the country. Their aircraft was shot down by a Cuban Air Force pilot.

The five agents consisted of three Cuban intelligence agents and two US citizens. They admitted to acting on orders from the Cuban government. Of course you and I know how they got those orders - they begin with "atencion" and end with "finale." According to the BBC news online, the group used coded computer disks, high-frequency radio transmissions and electronic phone messages to try to infiltrate the US Southern Command Headquarters in Miami as well as exile groups. The group maintained that their sole purpose was to infiltrate Cuban exile groups.

Maybe that's what their mission was supposed to be, but due to all the technical difficulties from the Cuban numbers stations, their orders got screwed up... OK, seriously, I would like to ask the spies what it was like receiving their messages from those stations when they constantly have transmitter or tape problems. Must have been frustrating.

See you all next month.

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Bootleggers

Bootleggers you're apt to hear will be on the standard broadcast band and conduct operations in your hometown. The Federal Communications Commission has a profile on the typical case since the agency receives more than two complaints a week from citizens about mysterious programs. An investigation usually exposes not a hardened criminal, but a youngster playing with a "wireless mike" or "phono oscillator." These are perfectly legal devices as long as they are operated according to the manufacturer's instructions. The trouble usually begins when an antenna longer than five feet is attached to the circuit, which greatly increases the transmitting range. Also, precocious experimenters add amplifiers to further boost the range. These miniature broadcast stations can reach all over the neighborhood, and can also be picked up on car radios.

Although the law provides stiff penalties for illegal broadcasting, the investigating engineer usually acts with a measure of understanding. An explanation to the youngster's parents about the seriousness of the operation is usually enough to restore peace to the airwaves.

Doesn't Anyone Want To Get High???

Let me repeat a plea to pirate ops that I've been making in these pages since 1989: try moving up to 25 or 26 MHz this fall so those of us out west (and internationally!) can have a better chance of hearing you!

Below is a QSL I recently received for reception of a studio-to-transmitter link station on 26410 kHz. Note the station's power; it was a solid S-9 at my QTH in southern California. Wouldn't you like to have similar coverage for your pirate station? Moreover, you could very easily hide among the STL stations in this range and better avoid FCC detection. And isn't 6950 crowded enough?

Give 11 meters a try this fall! *Please??????*



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www.wlio.com NEWS FAX 225-6109

Harry Helms
P.O. Box 335
Ridgecrest, CA 93556-0335

Thursday, May 17, 2001

Dear Harry,

Enclosed is a QSL for your reception of WPLP548 operating on 26.410 megahertz with a power of 35 watts.

This station uses a 5/8 over 5/8 collinear antenna mounted at 150 feet on WLIO's tower. Our transmission site is located at 40° 44' 54" by 84° 07' 55" (grid EN70).

I would like to thank you for the tape. It was interesting to hear WLIO's auxiliary station all the way out in California.

I'm also enclosing a "1st Edition" coffee mug, and a computer monitor cleaning cloth, (unless you are a golfer), as a token of appreciation for your efforts.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frederick R. Vobbe".
Frederick R. Vobbe
VP & Chief Operator, WLIO Television
Lima Communications Corporation

FRV/

the ASSOCIATION of CLANDESTINE radio ENTHUSIASTS

PO Box 1, Belfast, New York 14711-0001

The A*C*E is an association of individuals who find pirate, clandestine and covert communications an interesting part of their radio listening hobby. The primary existence of the club revolves around the publication of a monthly bulletin, The A*C*E. The bulletin reports on pirate, clandestine, covert and other unexplained broadcasts. Also, the readers are provided with other available material concerning motives, explanations and the theories behind these various broadcasts and broadcasters. The ACE as an organization, does not encourage, support or condone any illegal activity; we simply seek to understand the nature and reasoning behind such broadcasts. If your interests include listening to pirate radio stations, clandestine broadcasts and covert communications, The A*C*E is for you!!

All subscriptions, renewals, and queries regarding subscriptions should be sent to the above club address. Contributions for each editor should be sent to their own given addresses.

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